Sale of medicines under different brand names

†2523. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that medicines of same formulations are being sold in the market in abundance, under different brand names; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is 50 to 100 per cent difference in the rates of medicines of such brands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) In the Pharmaceutical market, there are many brands of the same composition manufactured by different companies.

For a Scheduled formulation, a manufacturer is required to follow the price fixed by the Government in accordance with the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995. Prices of non-Scheduled formulations are fixed by the manufacturers themselves keeping in view the various factors like cost of production, marketing/selling expenses, R&D expenses, trade commission, market competition, product innovation, product quality etc.

Appellate tribunal on Drugs Pricing

2524. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute an Appellate Tribunal on Drug Pricing, on the lines of Labour, Excise and Income taxTribunals;

(b) whether operation of the existing Drug Price Control Order by NPPA Is being challenged in courts by the industry; and

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to constitute the Tribunal because of abuse of the judicial system, by the drug industry, in circumventing the executive orders?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.